

## Farm Interests.

## A Garden Talk.

Metropolitan and Rural Home.

At first thought it would seem more appropriate to write about gardening in spring than in the fall. I believe, however, that no man ever has a good early garden who does not begin the work in the fall, and plan for it in winter, and if I can at this time interest and enthrall your readers in the subject, I have little doubt that an article read now will bear fruit next summer.

As I believe that one reason why there are so many poor gardens on the farm, is that the farmers do not realize how valuable it can be made, I will first give a few facts as to what even a fourth acre can be made to produce. I would not limit the farmer's garden to a fourth acre, but it so happens that I have just that amount of land in garden near my house, and grow other crops, such as sweet potatoes, tomatoes, sweet corn and berries in a truck patch more remote.

I have found, after many years experience, that plowing my garden in the fall in lands, twelve to sixteen feet wide, and cleaning out the dead furrows, so as to give perfect surface drainage, gives me the best possible seed bed at the smallest outlay of money, and enables me to plant hardy vegetables from one to two weeks earlier than otherwise. I believe that a majority of farmers do not know what vegetables are hardy, and I know that many of them think that frost will kill peas, but here is a list of hardy vegetables, which may be planted as early as the land can be worked, and that will bear to have the ground freeze after they are up: Peas, beets, lettuce, spinach, onions, radishes, cabbage, and celery. I have had all these up and the land freeze hard enough to bear a man, with no injury to most of them, although occasionally some of the beets, radishes and cabbage would be killed (but usually enough left), and the others entirely uninjured.

At this earliest planting I put in three kinds of peas, early, medium and late, and this prolongs the succession. We mix our cabbage seed with the radish seed, and sow together, and then as soon as the radishes will do to use, we pull first those near the best cabbage plants, and by the time the radishes are past use we have a thrifty row of cabbages, which as plants grown in the open ground are very hardy and grow rapidly, and furnish cabbage just about as early as can be had from hot bed plants.

To give some idea of what a small garden can be made to furnish, I will give some notes from my fourth-acre garden this season. My garden slopes gently to the east, is protected by a wire fence on the west and north, and is eight rods long and five rods wide. Across the north side are two rows of rhubarb and asparagus, which are the only perennials allowed in the garden. Everything in this garden is planted in rows running the length of the garden, so that the hand or horse cultivator can be used for cultivating it. For several years I have kept a record of the dates of planting, and when we began to use each variety of vegetable. The average date at which we have begun to use asparagus for several years is April 20th, and we have it every day until peas are ready for use, which is about June 1st, a week earlier in forward seasons and a week later in backward seasons.

I have the dates at which our earliest planting has been made for 17 years past. The earliest was in 1878, when I made garden the 25th of February, and the latest in 1881, when, on account of wet weather, we could

not plant until April 18th; but eleven years out of the seventeen our garden was planted in March, and five of these years the first half of March. The garden this year has grown six rows of peas, four of beans, two of onions, two of radishes, one each of cabbage, cauliflower and beets, four rows of Irish potatoes, two of sweet corn, one each of cucumbers, tomatoes and winter squash, with half a row each of spinach, lettuce, carrots, parsnips and celery, and three rows of strawberries. We first began using lettuce May 5, and from that day to October not a day passed in which we have not had several varieties of vegetables in use on the table, and of several varieties we have a winter supply. Our potatoes lasted nine weeks, during which time they were selling at from 80 cents to \$2.00 per bushel; strawberries every day for over three weeks; peas for a month; beans—snap and Lima—for three months, and all of the other varieties named in their season. We utilize all the land and give no place to weeds. Cucumbers grew where the early peas and lettuce had matured, and winter squashes were planted on the potato land when the first hills were dug for use. Such vegetables as we get from a well-kept garden can rarely be bought, for they are always fresh and wholesome, while those we buy have usually been shipped from a distance.

One rule which has been observed for twenty-five years in our garden is never allow a weed to go to seed, and this has added greatly to the ease and comfort of caring for it. I positively believe that one-fourth the work keeps my garden in good order now that was required when I allowed a crop of weeds to mature seed on it every year, as most of my neighbors still do. It seems to me so easy to have a good garden, and so indispensable to comfort and economy in the family, that it is marvelous that any one should be willing to do without it. I believe that any one who is disgusted with fighting weeds in the garden would soon learn to like garden work in a well-managed, clean garden.

WALDO F. BROWN.

Buler Co., O.

## December Farm Work.

Metropolitan and Rural Home.

In a large portion of our country, December closes up the work of tilling the soil, of sowing, planting, cultivating, reaping, harvesting, garnering, threshing and cleaning most farm crops. Some of our farmers fail to finish corn husking until outdoor husking is unpleasant and unsafe, and gather in the unhusked corn to be finished under shelter. This greatly increases the labor, but, if there is more outdoor work than there is time and labor to accomplish, it may be excusable. With December Nature enters into her long sleep. Vegetable organisms, like some species of animals, seem to become torpid, to hibernate. The processes of vegetation cannot be carried on without heat. Some plants will vegetate at a much lower temperature than others, but our ordinary winter temperature is too low for our hardiest species to grow.

One of the first things the farmer should see to when winter sets in, is that all sentient beings upon the farm, including his own family, are as well protected against cold and wet, against the inclemencies of the climate, as they may be. It is poor policy, very short sighted policy, to endeavor to protect animals from the cold entirely with food, or to protect human beings from winter's rigors mainly with fuel. Both house and barn should be made as comfortable as possible by the exclusion of the cold air. We are aware that all kinds of animals need

an abundance of pure air to sustain vitality, but it is better to be able to regulate its admission at will than to have it forced in upon you through neglected crevices. In dwellings heated by a furnace, pure air can be taken from the outside, passed over the furnace and warmed before admission into living rooms.

And in this matter of fuel, while quite a considerable proportion of our farmers probably depend upon the heat stored in the coal measures of the earth, in long past ages, to warm their dwellings, still very many go to the living forests for their fuel. The wise and provident farmer, undoubtedly, prepared this winter's fuel last winter; cut and split it in the woods, hauled it to the house, cut and split it into stove-wood, and piled it under the wood-house, where it has been seasoning eight or nine months, and is now ready to burn without coaxing, in cook or parlor stove or in the open grate. Those farmers' families who are provided with such fuel are prepared to pass through the winter with a maximum amount of comfort and a minimum of discomfort, annoyance and vexation from refractory fires that refuse to burn. And if that seasoned wood is hard maple, or beech, or hickory or oak the farmer's family is truly favored.

But, that such blessings may continue, next winter's supply of fuel should be cut in December, hauled with the first good snow and saved split and piled under the woodhouse in stormy days, when the farmer can not work outdoors without detriment to his health. In our early boyhood small trees of second growth timber were cut and hauled to the house, sled length, and then worked up in the dooryard during the latter part of winter. Such a course had its advantages, but we afterwards came in contact with large trees, two to three feet in diameter, and it would have been more of a task to handle such logs, sled length.

Sometimes December remains quite mild up to the middle, or later, and many kinds of work can be done to very good advantage out of doors. It is not advisable to commence any work that cannot be abandoned any day, without detriment, but such jobs as ditching, drawing stones, plowing and many other kinds of work can frequently be prosecuted to advantage, but all tools should be carefully housed every night, because you are liable to find any morning a deep mantle of snow covering the nakedness of the earth.

December is the month of long evenings, the longest of the year, and these are the farmer's opportunity for mental improvement and social enjoyment. Read, study, gather the family around the evening lamp, one of the best of the kind, one that will diffuse a soft steady light, and read agricultural journals, agricultural books, agricultural experiment station reports, the sciences pertaining to agriculture and encourage your sons and daughters to read such works on natural history as shall tend to interest them in nature and in love with the farmers vocation; for the coming farmer must understand those sciences that will assist him in cultivating the soil and in husbanding its resources or agriculture will become an unremunerative pursuit. The writer's most appreciative reading and study was done in a farm home around the evening lamp, and when he talks about this he is talking from experience.

Before December closes the farmer should have his accounts with the farm, and all other accounts posted and balanced, that he may know what crops and what methods have paid and what have failed to pay and whether the year's operations have been profitable or otherwise. December should not be an idle month with the farmer, but one of the busiest of the year.

Surer foundation cannot be laid than the real merit which is the solid base for the monumental success of Hood's Sarsaparilla.

## A Wonder Worker.

Mr. Frank Huffman, a young man of Burlington, Ohio, states that he had been under the care of two prominent physicians, and used their treatment until he was not able to get around. They pronounced his case to be consumption and incurable. He was persuaded to try Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs, Colds, and at that time was not able to walk across the street without resting. He found before he had used half of a dollar bottle, that he was much better; he continued to use it and is today enjoying good health. If you have any Throat, Lung or Chest trouble try it. We guarantee satisfaction. Trial bottles free at Ritchey & Bostick's Drug Store, 5

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## A Schedule of Adulteration Proposed.

Kansas National Weekly.

An Illinois merchant who was taking baking powder in bulk from a Chicago firm called at headquarters the other day to say that there was something wrong with the goods.

"I don't think so," was the reply; "we make the best article sold in the West."

"I think we ought to have a more perfect understanding," continued the dealer. "Now, then you adulterate before you send to me; then I adulterate before I ship; then the retailer adulterates before he sells, and the consumer can't be blamed for growling. I want to see if we can't agree on some schedule to be followed."

"What do you mean?"

"Why, suppose you put in 10 per cent of chalk; then I put in 20 per cent of whitening; then the retailer puts in 30 per cent of flour. That gives the consumer about 40 per cent of baking powder, and unless he's a born hog he'll be perfectly satisfied. You see, if you adulterate 50 per cent on the start and I adulterate as much more, and the retailer adulterates as much more as both together, it's mighty hard for the consumer to tell whether he's investing in baking powder or putty. We must give him something for his money, if it's only chalk."

## LIFE, HEALTH AND STRENGTH.

APALACHICOLA, FLA., Feb. 17, 1899.

MESSRS. LIPPMAN BROS., Savannah, Ga.:

DEAR SIR:—I will write to inform you that I was afflicted with Blood Disease. I tried one bottle of P. P. P. and it gave me no relief. I was in bed seven months. I tried prominent physicians, and they could do me no good. I saw your advertisement of P. P. P. in the Apalachicola Times, and thought I would try it. The bottle I got tonight makes seven or eight, and, oh, how good I feel. I have been up ever since at my business, lumber inspector. You may publish this if you desire. I have informed my friends that P. P. P. is life, health and strength.

M. P. BOULDEN.  
Sold by all Druggists and General Stores.  
LIPPMAN BROS., Proprietors and Druggists, Savannah, Ga.

DURANT, MISS., Dec 12, 1890.  
Office of J. S. ROSAMAND.

MESSRS. LIPPMAN BROS., Savannah, Ga.: GENTLEMEN:—While in San Antonio, Texas last spring, I saw your advertisement of P. P. P. (Prickly Ash, Poke Root & Potassium) in the paper for the cure of rheumatism, and thought I would try a bottle, finding such great relief from it, on my return home I had my druggist, Mr. John McClellan to order me a supply. After taking, I think ten bottles, I have not had a pain or ache since, previous to that I suffered for twenty-five (25) years, and could not get the least benefit until I tried P. P. P., and therefore take pleasure in recommending it to all.

Yours Truly,  
J. S. ROSAMAND.

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